(a) the total number of Anganwadi Kendras in Araria area;

(b) whether there is no Anganwadi in Chhatapur even after getting approval in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) In Araria district there are 3 sanctioned ICDS projects viz. Raniganj, Jaukihat and Bhargawan with 180, 100 & 132 sanctioned Anganwadis respectively.

(b) There is no sanctioned ICDS project in Chhatapur block.

(c) Question does no arise.

[*English*]

Hydro–Electric Project in Sikkim

934. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some environmentalists have raised objections against the hydro–electric project in the tribal areas of North Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; hazards to be created by the construction of this; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No representations have been received against hydro–electric projects in tribal region of North Sikkim.

(c) No project from North Sikkim is pending for environmental or forestry clearance.

Thalassemia among Children

935. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newly born children in the country in 1991 having thalassemia gene and thalassemia major separately; and

(b) the steps being taken to help these children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Considering the gene frequency of 2–3% in general population, it has been estimated that approximately 6,000 new cases of thalassemia are born each year.

(b) The Indian Council of Medical Research has intimated that they have created a facility for prenatal diagnosis of thalassemia at its Institute of Immunohaematology (IIH), Bombay. Council is also supporting a project at the University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi, to study the gene frequency and improve prenatal diagnosis to cut down the frequency and thereby decrease the incidence of the disease.

[*Translation*]

Reserved Vacancies of Trained Graduate Teachers in Delhi Administration

936. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: